



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/023,951	12/21/2001	Pere Obrador	10007843	7670
7590	03/20/2006		EXAMINER	
HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY Intellectual Property Administration P.O. Box 272400 Fort Collins, CO 80527-2400			HANNETT, JAMES M	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2612	

DATE MAILED: 03/20/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/023,951	OBRADOR ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	James M. Hannett	2612

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 January 2006.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-15,22,23,26,27 and 29-49 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-15,22,23,26,27 and 29-49 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 21 December 2001 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner. Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a). Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 1/5/2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

In response to applicant's argument that there is no suggestion to combine the references in regards to Claims 1 and 11, the examiner recognizes that obviousness can only be established by combining or modifying the teachings of the prior art to produce the claimed invention where there is some teaching, suggestion, or motivation to do so found either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art. See *In re Fine*, 837 F.2d 1071, 5 USPQ2d 1596 (Fed. Cir. 1988) and *In re Jones*, 958 F.2d 347, 21 USPQ2d 1941 (Fed. Cir. 1992). In this case, Mottur et al teaches a method of transmitting real-time low-resolution video to remote users. However, Mottur et al does not teach that the users can capture high-resolution stills of the live real time low-resolution video.

Ramasubramanian et al teaches a method for providing a snapshot from a digital video stream. Ramasubramanian et al teaches in the abstract a method of allowing a remote user to select a frame from a low-resolution video stream and have a high resolution image which corresponds to the selected video frame sent to them. Ramasubramanian et al further states on Column 2, Lines 33-40 that it is clearly desirable to provide a mechanism that allows a user to obtain a snapshot of a video image, where the snapshot has a size and quality that is superior to the low-resolution video image in order to allow a user to obtain a higher quality image to be sent over a limited bandwidth.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the video distribution system of Mottur et al to allow a user to select and download a high-resolution still image as taught by Ramasubramanian et al so that a user can obtain a snapshot has a size and quality that is superior to the low-resolution video image.

The applicant argues that the prior art does not teach the use of high resolution photographs or that the still images are of a resolution higher than the captured video.

The examiner disagrees with the applicant and points out that Ramasubramanian et al teaches on Column 5, Lines 35-44 that the still images have a resolution of 640x120 and the live video has a resolution of 160x120. Therefore, the still images have a resolution greater than the video and is therefore viewed by the examiner as being a high-resolution image in comparison to the video image.

The applicant argues that in Mottur et al, the reference is concerned with avoiding choppy video and there is no evidence of record that Mottur is concerned with photographs let alone photographs having a resolution greater than a resolution of video.

In response to applicant's argument that in Mottur et al, the reference is concerned with avoiding choppy video and there is no evidence of record that Mottur is concerned with photographs let alone photographs having a resolution greater than a resolution of video, the test for obviousness is not whether the features of a secondary reference may be bodily incorporated into the structure of the primary reference; nor is it that the claimed invention must be expressly suggested in any one or all of the references. Rather, the test is what the combined teachings of

the references would have suggested to those of ordinary skill in the art. See *In re Keller*, 642 F.2d 413, 208 USPQ 871 (CCPA 1981).

In response to applicant's arguments against the references individually, one cannot show nonobviousness by attacking references individually where the rejections are based on combinations of references. See *In re Keller*, 642 F.2d 413, 208 USPQ 871 (CCPA 1981); *In re Merck & Co.*, 800 F.2d 1091, 231 USPQ 375 (Fed. Cir. 1986).

The applicant has challenged the official notice taken by the examiner that it was well known in the art at the time the invention was made to use two different physical medium (wires) to communicate video and control commands in order to prevent cross talk between the video signal and the control signals in order to improve image quality. The examiner has provided a reference for the grounds of official notice in this action.

In response to applicant's argument that there is no suggestion to combine the references, the examiner recognizes that obviousness can only be established by combining or modifying the teachings of the prior art to produce the claimed invention where there is some teaching, suggestion, or motivation to do so found either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art. See *In re Fine*, 837 F.2d 1071, 5 USPQ2d 1596 (Fed. Cir. 1988) and *In re Jones*, 958 F.2d 347, 21 USPQ2d 1941 (Fed. Cir. 1992). In this case, Mottur et al in view of Ramasubramanian et al teaches transmitting a live video captured by a camera and when a user selects to view a still image, a still image is captured by the camera. However, Mottur et al in view of Ramasubramanian et al captures a still image after the corresponding frame of video has been captured. Therefore, the video frame selected by

the user is does not correspond to the still image captured and transmitted to the user, since the two images were not captured at the same time.

Juen teaches on Paragraphs [0037-0040] and depicts in Figure 1 the use of a camera which captures a high resolution video and saves each of the high resolution frames as high-resolution still images. Juen teaches that these high-resolution images are converted to low-resolution images and formed into a video stream. Therefore, the process of acquiring a high-resolution image is performed during the generation of the video signal, since both the video images and still images are formed from the same image capture. Juen teaches that this camera is advantageous because it clearly related the still images to the video images.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the electronic camera of Juen in the video distribution system of Mottur in view of Ramasubramenian et al in order to allow a user to acquire a high resolution image of the video image which is better related to the video images in that the video image corresponds to a high resolution still image captured at the same time. Juen further teaches on Paragraphs [0013-0014] that this camera enables a user to image still objects at will even while recording a moving object. Furthermore, the camera of Juen can enhance the operational quality related to recording changeover between images and video.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

1: Claims 1-15, 22, 23, 26, 27, 29-31, 33-35, 37, 39, 42, and 46 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US 2002/0018124 A1 Mottur et al in view of USPN 6,172,672 Ramasubramanian et al.

2: As for Claim 1, Mottur et al depicts in Figures 1 and 3 and teaches on Paragraph [0020] a method for acquiring a streaming video comprising: Connecting a remote device (48) to one or more photo-video acquisition devices (16) individually comprising a camera, wherein the remote device (48) is controlled by the user; using a connected one of the cameras, generating a video of a scene viewed using the respective camera; Acquiring streamed from the one or more photo-video acquisition devices (16); Mottur et al teaches a video distribution system in which users can control cameras connected via a network. Mottur teaches that the cameras can transmit streaming video, compressed, and uncompressed video; Paragraph [0023]. Mottur et al teaches that video can be sent to the users but does not teach that the users can capture a still frame of the video that is being watched and that a high-resolution image of the streaming video can be transmitted upon request.

Ramasubramenian et al teaches on Column 2, Lines 6-10 and on Column 5, Lines 34-44 and in the abstract a method for providing snapshots from a compressed digital video stream over a video distribution system. Ramasubramenian et al teaches that it is advantageous when transmitting video over a limited bandwidth communication medium to enable users with a snapshot feature that allows a user to specify a desired frame of video data and receive a greater resolution image. Ramasubramenian et al teaches that it is advantageous to allow a user to capture a high-resolution still image because it has higher resolution and quality than the low

bandwidth streaming video. Ramasubramenian et al teaches that it is preferable to include a snapshot function because often users like to have the ability review a single frame of video.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to enable the video distribution system of Mottur et al with the snapshot function of Ramasubramenian et al in order to capture a high-resolution still image from the low bandwidth streaming video, since it is preferable to include a snapshot function because often users like to have the ability review a single frame of video.

3: In regards to Claim 2, Mottur et al teaches in Paragraph [0006] the connecting step includes connecting the remote device (48) to the one or more photo-video acquisition devices (16) through a network.

4: As for Claim 3, Mottur et al teaches in Paragraph [0006] the connecting step includes connecting the remote device (48) to the one or more photo-video acquisition devices (16) through a point-to-point connection. A point-to-point connection is viewed by the examiner as a internet or a public or private network connection.

5: In regards to Claim 4, Mottur et al teaches on Paragraph [0049] requesting payment information (account information for pay-per-view access) from a user (48) who wishes to control the one or more photo-video acquisition devices (16); and enabling the user to control the one or more photo-video acquisition devices (16) from the remote device (48).

6: As for Claim 5, Mottur et al teaches on Paragraph [0050] further comprising verifying the payment information submitted by the user before enabling the user to control the one or more photo-video acquisition devices. Mottur et al teaches that camera control intervals can be based on subscriber fees.

7: In regards to Claim 6, Mottur et al teaches on Paragraph [0049] the use of a queue system to allow multiple users (48) to control the one or more photo-video acquisition devices (16).

8: As for Claim 7, Mottur et al teaches on Paragraph [0027], Lines 18-21 that the network includes mass storage devices on a network server (18, 20, and 22) to store the videos and the high resolution photographs.

9: In regards to Claim 8, Ramasubramenian et al teaches on Column 2, Lines 6-10 and on Column 5, Lines 34-44 and in the abstract a method for providing snapshots from a compressed digital video stream over a video distribution system. Therefore, Mottur et al in view of Ramasubramenian et al teaches sending the video and high-resolution photograph to the user (48).

10: As for Claim 9, Mottur et al teaches on Paragraph [0005], Lines 6-8 posting the video on a web page. Furthermore, Ramasubramenian et al teaches on Column 2, Lines 6-10 and on Column 5, Lines 34-44 and in the abstract a method for providing snapshots from a compressed digital video stream over a video distribution system. Ramasubramenian et al teaches that it is preferable to include a snapshot function because often users like to have the ability review a single frame of video.

11: In regards to Claim 10, Mottur et al teaches on Paragraph [0049] requesting payment information (account information for pay-per-view access) from a user (48) who wishes to download the video and the high-resolution photograph from the web page; and enabling the user (48) to download the video and the high-resolution photograph onto the remote device.

12: As for Claim 11, Mottur et al depicts in Figures 1 and 3 and teaches on Paragraph [0020] a method for acquiring a streaming video comprising: Connecting a remote device (48) to one or

more photo-video acquisition devices (16) individually comprising a camera, wherein the remote device (48) is controlled by the user; using a connected one of the cameras, generating a video of a scene viewed using the respective camera; Acquiring streamed from the one or more photo-video acquisition devices (16); Mottur et al teaches a video distribution system in which users can control cameras connected via a network. Mottur teaches that the cameras can transmit streaming video, compressed, and uncompressed video; Paragraph [0023]. Mottur teaches acquiring videos of a live scene as originally viewed in real time for the first time by the remote video cameras. Mottur et al teaches that video can be sent to the users but does not teach that the users can capture a still frame of the video that is being watched and that a high-resolution image of the streaming video can be transmitted upon request by a user.

Ramasubramenian et al teaches on Column 2, Lines 6-10 and on Column 5, Lines 34-44 and in the abstract a method for providing snapshots from a compressed digital video stream over a video distribution system. Ramasubramenian et al teaches that it is advantageous when transmitting video over a limited bandwidth communication medium to enable users with a snapshot feature that allows a user to specify a desired frame of video data and receive a greater resolution image. Ramasubramenian et al teaches that it is advantageous to allow a user to capture a high-resolution still image because it has higher resolution and quality than the low bandwidth streaming video. Ramasubramenian et al teaches that it is preferable to include a snapshot function because often users like to have the ability review a single frame of video. Ramasubramanian et al further teaches on Column 5, Lines 36-47 that the high resolution photograph “still snapshot” has a resolution greater than a resolution of the video.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to enable the video distribution system of Mottur et al with the snapshot function of Ramasubramenian et al in order to capture a high-resolution still image from the low bandwidth streaming video, since it is preferable to include a snapshot function because often users like to have the ability review a single frame of video.

13: In regards to Claim 12, Mottur et al teaches in Paragraph [0006] the user (48) can control the one or more photo-video acquisition devices (16) from the remote device (48) through the network or other communication channels.

14: As for Claim 13, Mottur et al teaches on Paragraph [0049] the one or more photo-video acquisition devices (16) include a queue system that allows multiple users (48) to control the one or more photo-video acquisition devices (16).

15: In regards to Claim 14, Mottur et al teaches on Paragraph [0027], Lines 18-21 that the network includes mass storage devices on a network server (18, 20, and 22) to store the videos and the high-resolution photographs.

16: As for Claim 15, Mottur et al teaches on Paragraph [0005], Lines 6-8 posting the video on a web page. Furthermore, Ramasubramenian et al teaches on Column 2, Lines 6-10 and on Column 5, Lines 34-44 and in the abstract a method for providing snapshots from a compressed digital video stream over a video distribution system. Ramasubramenian et al teaches that it is preferable to include a snapshot function because often users like to have the ability review a single frame of video.

17: In regards to Claim 22, Mottur et al teaches on Paragraph [0020] communicating a command from the user (48) to the camera (16); and altering an operation of the camera with

respect to the generation of the video responsive to the command. The command is viewed by the examiner as the command sent to control the pan, tilt, and zoom settings of the cameras.

18: As for Claim 23, Mottur et al teaches on Paragraph [0020] providing real-time continuous streaming video and audio data from at least one remote camera system. Furthermore, the systems allows the network users to interactively control the cameras using continuous control methods and systems such as panning and tilting. Therefore, in order to have continuous real-time streaming video and continuous controlling of pan and tilt angles it is inherent that there are two different communications channels to allow the two processes to take place simultaneously. Furthermore, Ramasubramenian et al teaches that the system can transmit both high resolution still images and video. This is viewed as the pipeline configured to transmit both still and motion images. Furthermore, the examiner views the limitation of “using a communications channel that is different” as being broad and does not specify that the two channels are on different physical lines, center frequencies, of time slots.

19: In regards to Claim 26, Mottur et al depicts in Figures 1 and 3 and teaches on Paragraph [0020] a method for acquiring a streaming video comprising: Connecting a remote device (48) to one or more photo-video acquisition devices (16) individually comprising a camera, wherein the remote device (48) is controlled by the user; using a connected one of the cameras, generating a video of a scene viewed using the respective camera; Acquiring streamed from the one or more photo-video acquisition devices (16); Mottur et al teaches a video distribution system in which users can control cameras connected via a network. Mottur teaches that the cameras can transmit streaming video, compressed, and uncompressed video; Paragraph [0023]. Mottur et al teaches on Paragraph [0020] communicating a command from the user (48) to the camera (16); and

altering an operation of the camera with respect to the generation of the video responsive to the command. The command is viewed by the examiner as the command sent to control the pan, tilt, and zoom settings of the cameras. Mottur et al teaches that video can be sent to the users but does not teach that the users can capture a still frame of the video that is being watched and that a high-resolution image of the streaming video can be transmitted upon request by a user.

Ramasubramenian et al teaches on Column 2, Lines 6-10 and on Column 5, Lines 34-44 and in the abstract a method for providing snapshots from a compressed digital video stream over a video distribution system. Ramasubramenian et al teaches that it is advantageous when transmitting video over a limited bandwidth communication medium to enable users with a snapshot feature that allows a user to specify a desired frame of video data and receive a greater resolution image. Ramasubramenian et al teaches that it is advantageous to allow a user to capture a high-resolution still image because it has higher resolution and quality than the low bandwidth streaming video. Ramasubramenian et al teaches that it is preferable to include a snapshot function because often users like to have the ability review a single frame of video.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to enable the video distribution system of Mottur et al with the snapshot function of Ramasubramenian et al in order to capture a high-resolution still image from the low bandwidth streaming video, since it is preferable to include a snapshot function because often users like to have the ability review a single frame of video.

20: As for Claim 27, Furthermore, Motter et al teaches on Paragraph [0020] that the video provided to the remote user is real-time streaming video. Therefore, the video is not stored

before it is transmitted to the user and would be stored for a first time after the image is generated and transmitted to a user.

21: In regards to Claim 29, Mottur et al teaches on Paragraph [0027], Lines 18-21 that the network includes mass storage devices on a web presentation network server (18, 20, and 22) to store the videos. Mottur et al teaches on Paragraph [0005], Lines 6-8 posting the video on a web page. Therefore, Mottur et al teaches a server coupled with the network and configured to host a web page, wherein the server is configured to post the videos using data acquired by one or more photo-video acquisition devices (cameras). Furthermore, Mottur et al teaches on Paragraph [0027 and 0005] downloading the videos to remote devices responsive to a command received from the remote devices. The remote devices are viewed as the remote users.

22: As for Claim 30, Mottur et al depicts in Figures 1 and 3 and teaches on Paragraph [0020] a method for acquiring a streaming video comprising: Connecting a remote device (48) to one or more photo-video acquisition devices (16) individually comprising a camera, wherein the remote device (48) is controlled by the user; using a connected one of the cameras, generating a video of a scene viewed using the respective camera; Acquiring streamed from the one or more photo-video acquisition devices (16); Mottur et al teaches a video distribution system in which users can control cameras connected via a network. Mottur teaches that the cameras can transmit streaming video, compressed, and uncompressed video; Paragraph [0023]. Mottur et al teaches that video can be sent to the users but does not teach that the users can capture a still frame of the video that is being watched and that a high-resolution image of the streaming video can be transmitted upon request by a user using a joint video and still image pipeline.

Ramasubramenian et al teaches on Column 2, Lines 6-10 and on Column 5, Lines 34-44 and in the abstract a method for providing snapshots from a compressed digital video stream over a video distribution system. Ramasubramenian et al teaches that it is advantageous when transmitting video over a limited bandwidth communication medium to enable users with a snapshot feature that allows a user to specify a desired frame of video data and receive a greater resolution image. Ramasubramenian et al teaches that it is advantageous to allow a user to capture a high-resolution still image because it has higher resolution and quality than the low bandwidth streaming video. Ramasubramenian et al teaches that it is preferable to include a snapshot function because often users like to have the ability review a single frame of video.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to enable the video distribution system of Mottur et al with the snapshot function of Ramasubramenian et al in order to capture a high-resolution still image from the low bandwidth streaming video, since it is preferable to include a snapshot function because often users like to have the ability review a single frame of video.

23: In regards to Claim 31, Mottur et al teaches in Paragraph [0006] the user (48) can control the one or more photo-video acquisition devices (16) from the remote device (48) through the network or other communication channels. Mottur et al teaches on Paragraph [0049] requesting payment information (account information for pay-per-view access) from a user (48) who wishes to control the one or more photo-video acquisition devices (16); and enabling the user to control the one or more photo-video acquisition devices (16) from the remote device (48).

Ramasubramenian et al teaches on Column 2, Lines 6-10 and on Column 5, Lines 34-44 and in the abstract a method for providing snapshots from a compressed digital video stream over a

video distribution system. Therefore, Mottur et al in view of Ramasubramenian et al teaches sending the video and high-resolution photograph to the user (48).

24: In regards to Claim 33, Mottur et al teaches the use of sending video to remote users (48) on a network. However, Mottur et al does not teach that the users can be located in their homes.

Official notice is taken that it was well known in the art at the time the invention was made to use personal computers at home in order to give convenience to a user.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to allow the users (48) in the video distribution system of Mottur et al to be located in the users homes, in order to give convenience to the user.

25: As for Claim 34, Mottur et al depicts in Figures 1 and 3 and teaches on Paragraph [0020] an image data communication method comprising: providing a remotely located camera (16); capturing live video data of a scene using the camera (streaming video); coupling a remote device (48) with the camera (16) using a network; communicating captured live video data from the camera (16) to the remote device using the network, wherein the captured live video data has a first resolution; The first resolution is the streaming video resolution. outputting a first command from the remote device (48); the first command is viewed as the command sent by a user to control the pan and tilt of the camera (16). Therefore, altering the capturing of the live video data of the scene using the camera responsive to the first command;

Mottur et al teaches that video can be sent to the users but does not teach that the users can capture a still frame (second command) of the video that is being watched and that a high-resolution image of the streaming video can be transmitted upon request by a user using a joint video and still image pipeline.

Ramasubramenian et al teaches on Column 2, Lines 6-10 and on Column 5, Lines 34-44 and in the abstract a method for providing snapshots from a compressed digital video stream over a video distribution system. Ramasubramenian et al teaches that it is advantageous when transmitting video over a limited bandwidth communication medium to enable users with a snapshot feature that allows a user to specify a desired frame of video data and receive a greater resolution image. Ramasubramenian et al teaches that it is advantageous to allow a user to capture a high-resolution still image because it has higher resolution and quality than the low bandwidth streaming video. Ramasubramenian et al teaches that it is preferable to include a snapshot function because often users like to have the ability review a single frame of video.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to enable the video distribution system of Mottur et al with the snapshot function of Ramasubramenian et al in order to capture a high-resolution still image from the low bandwidth streaming video, since it is preferable to include a snapshot function because often users like to have the ability review a single frame of video.

26: As for Claim 35, Ramasubramanian et al further teaches on Column 5, Lines 36-47 that the high resolution photograph “still snapshot” has a resolution greater than a resolution of the video.

27: In regards to Claim 37, Ramasubramanian et al further teaches on Column 5, Lines 36-47 that the high-resolution photograph “still snapshot” has a resolution greater than a resolution of the video.

Art Unit: 2612

28: As for Claim 39, Ramasubramanian et al further teaches on Column 5, Lines 36-47 that the high-resolution photograph “still snapshot” has a resolution greater than a resolution of the video.

29: As for Claim 42, Ramasubramanian et al further teaches on Column 5, Lines 36-47 that the high-resolution photograph “still snapshot” has a resolution greater than a resolution of the video.

30: In regards to Claim 46, Mottur et al depicts in Figures 1 and 3 and teaches on Paragraph [0020] a method for acquiring a streaming video comprising: Connecting a remote device (48) to one or more photo-video acquisition devices (16) individually comprising a camera, wherein the remote device (48) is controlled by the user; using a connected one of the cameras, generating a video of a scene viewed using the respective camera; Acquiring streamed from the one or more photo-video acquisition devices (16); Mottur et al teaches a video distribution system in which users can control cameras connected via a network. Mottur teaches that the cameras can transmit streaming video, compressed, and uncompressed video; Paragraph [0023]. Mottur teaches acquiring videos of a live scene as originally viewed in real time for the first time by the remote video cameras. Mottur et al teaches that video can be sent to the users but does not teach that the users can capture a still frame of the video that is being watched and that a high-resolution image of the streaming video can be transmitted upon request by a user.

Ramasubramenian et al teaches on Column 2, Lines 6-10 and on Column 5, Lines 34-44 and in the abstract a method for providing snapshots from a compressed digital video stream over a video distribution system. Ramasubramenian et al teaches that it is advantageous when transmitting video over a limited bandwidth communication medium to enable users with a

snapshot feature that allows a user to specify a desired frame of video data and receive a greater resolution image. Ramasubramanian et al teaches that it is advantageous to allow a user to capture a high-resolution still image because it has higher resolution and quality than the low bandwidth streaming video. Ramasubramanian et al teaches that it is preferable to include a snapshot function because often users like to have the ability review a single frame of video. Ramasubramanian et al further teaches on Column 5, Lines 36-47 that the high resolution photograph “still snapshot” has a resolution greater than a resolution of the video. Furthermore, Ramasubramanian et al teaches on Column 5, Lines 35-44 that the captured still images have a resolution of 640x480 and the real time video has a resolution of 120x120. Therefore, the still images have a higher resolution than the video and is viewed as a high resolution image in comparison to the real-time video.

31: Claim 32 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US 2002/0018124 A1 Mottur et al in view of USPN 6,172,672 Ramasubramanian et al in view of USPN 6,591,068 Dietz.

32: As for Claim 32, Mottur et al in view of Ramasubramanian et al teaches the use of capturing a high-resolution image from streaming video and sending the image on the network to remote users (48). Mottur et al in view of Ramasubramanian et al does not teach storing the high-resolution photograph in a local storage; and printing the high resolution photograph on a printer at home.

Dietz teaches on Column 6, Lines 34-60 the use of a system in which several cameras are connected to a network in which a user at a computer terminal can select images to be printed which were sent to the computer over a network. Dietz teaches that it is advantageous to allow

users to print the images on a printer because it allows them to have a hard copy photograph of an event they want to remember.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to enable the user on the system of Mottur et al in view of Ramasubramanian et al to print a selected image on a printer in order to allow them to have a hard copy photograph of an event they want to remember.

33: Claims 38, 40, 41, 43, 44, 47, 48, and 49 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US 2002/0018124 A1 Mottur et al in view of USPN 6,172,672 Ramasubramanian et al in further view of US 2002/0024602 Juen.

34: In regards to Claim 38, Mottur in view of Ramasubramanian et al teaches acquiring a high-resolution still image and generating a low resolution video as viewed in real time using the respective camera. However, Mottur in view of Ramasubramanian et al does not teach the use of using a camera that captured the high resolution still image at the same time the low resolution video is being generated.

Juen teaches on Paragraphs [0037-0040] and depicts in Figure 1 the use of a camera which captures a high resolution video and saves each of the high resolution frames as high-resolution still images. Juen teaches that these high-resolution images are converted to low resolution images and formed into a video stream. Therefore, it is viewed by the examiner that the process of acquiring a high-resolution image is performed during the generation of the video signal, since both the video images and still images are formed from the same image capture. Juen teaches that this camera is advantageous because it clearly relates the still images to the video images.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the electronic camera of Juen in the video distribution system of Mottur in view of Ramasubramenian et al in order to allow a user to acquire a high resolution image of the video image which is better related to the video images.

35: As for Claim 40, Mottur in view of Ramasubramenian et al teaches acquiring a high-resolution still image and generating a low resolution video as viewed in real time using the respective camera. However, Mottur in view of Ramasubramenian et al does not teach the use of using a camera that captures the high resolution still image at the same time the low resolution video is being generated.

Juen teaches on Paragraphs [0037-0040] and depicts in Figure 1 the use of a camera which captures a high resolution video and saves each of the high resolution frames as high-resolution still images. Juen teaches that these high-resolution images are converted to low resolution images and formed into a video stream. Therefore, it is viewed by the examiner that the process of acquiring a high-resolution image is performed during the generation of the video signal, since both the video images and still images are formed from the same image capture. Juen teaches that this camera is advantageous because it clearly related the still images to the video images. Furthermore, Juen teaches and depicts in Figure 2 that the processing and transmitting of the still image and video image are performed in parallel.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the electronic camera of Juen in the video distribution system of Mottur in view of Ramasubramenian et al in order to allow a user to acquire a high resolution image of the video image which is better related to the video images.

Art Unit: 2612

36: As for Claim 41, Mottur in view of Ramasubramenian et al teaches acquiring a high-resolution still image and generating a low resolution video as viewed in real time using the respective camera. However, Mottur in view of Ramasubramenian et al does not teach the use of using a camera that captured the high resolution still image at the same time the low resolution video is being generated.

Juen teaches on Paragraphs [0037-0040] and depicts in Figure 1 the use of a camera which captures a high resolution video and saves each of the high resolution frames as high-resolution still images. Juen teaches that these high-resolution images are converted to low resolution images and formed into a video stream. Therefore, it is viewed by the examiner that the process of acquiring a high-resolution image is performed during the generation of the video signal, since both the video images and still images are formed from the same image capture. Juen teaches that this camera is advantageous because it clearly related the still images to the video images.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the electronic camera of Juen in the video distribution system of Mottur in view of Ramasubramenian et al in order to allow a user to acquire a high resolution image of the video image which is better related to the video images.

37: In regards to Claim 43, Mottur in view of Ramasubramenian et al teaches acquiring a high-resolution still image and generating a low resolution video as viewed in real time using the respective camera. However, Mottur in view of Ramasubramenian et al does not teach the use of using a camera that captured the high resolution still image at the same time the low resolution video is being generated.

Juen teaches on Paragraphs [0037-0040] and depicts in Figure 1 the use of a camera which captures a high resolution video and saves each of the high resolution frames as high-resolution still images. Juen teaches that these high-resolution images are converted to low resolution images and formed into a video stream. Therefore, it is viewed by the examiner that the process of acquiring a high-resolution image is performed during the generation of the video signal, since both the video images and still images are formed from the same image capture. Juen teaches that this camera is advantageous because it clearly relates the still images to the video images.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the electronic camera of Juen in the video distribution system of Mottur in view of Ramasubramenian et al in order to allow a user to acquire a high resolution image of the video image which is better related to the video images.

38: As for Claim 44, Mottur in view of Ramasubramenian et al teaches acquiring a high-resolution still image and generating a low resolution video as viewed in real time using the respective camera. However, Mottur in view of Ramasubramenian et al does not teach the use of using a camera that captured the high resolution still image at the same time the low resolution video is being generated.

Juen teaches on Paragraphs [0037-0040] and depicts in Figure 1 the use of a camera which captures a high resolution video and saves each of the high resolution frames as high-resolution still images. Juen teaches that these high-resolution images are converted to low resolution images and formed into a video stream. Therefore, it is viewed by the examiner that the process of acquiring a high-resolution image is performed during the generation of the video

signal, since both the video images and still images are formed from the same image capture.

Juen teaches that this camera is advantageous because it clearly related the still images to the video images.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the electronic camera of Juen in the video distribution system of Mottur in view of Ramasubramenian et al in order to allow a user to acquire a high resolution image of the video image which is better related to the video images.

39: In regards to Claim 47, Mottur in view of Ramasubramenian et al teaches acquiring a high-resolution still image and generating a low resolution video as viewed in real time using the respective camera. However, Mottur in view of Ramasubramenian et al does not teach the use of using a camera that captured the high resolution still image at the same time the low resolution video is being generated.

Juen teaches on Paragraphs [0037-0040] and depicts in Figure 1 the use of a camera which captures a high resolution video and saves each of the high resolution frames as high-resolution still images. Juen teaches that these high-resolution images are converted to low resolution images and formed into a video stream. Therefore, it is viewed by the examiner that the process of acquiring a high-resolution image is performed during the generation of the video signal, since both the video images and still images are formed from the same image capture. Juen teaches that this camera is advantageous because it clearly related the still images to the video images.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the electronic camera of Juen in the video distribution system of

Mottur in view of Ramasubramenian et al in order to allow a user to acquire a high resolution image of the video image which is better related to the video images.

40: As for Claim 48, Mottur in view of Ramasubramenian et al teaches acquiring a high-resolution still image and generating a low resolution video as viewed in real time using the respective camera. However, Mottur in view of Ramasubramenian et al does not teach the use of using a camera that captured the high resolution still image at the same time the low resolution video is being generated.

Juen teaches on Paragraphs [0037-0040] and depicts in Figure 1 the use of a camera which captures a high resolution video and saves each of the high resolution frames as high-resolution still images. Juen teaches that these high-resolution images are converted to low resolution images and formed into a video stream. Therefore, it is viewed by the examiner that the process of acquiring a high-resolution image is performed during the generation of the video signal, since both the video images and still images are formed from the same image capture. Juen teaches that this camera is advantageous because it clearly related the still images to the video images.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the electronic camera of Juen in the video distribution system of Mottur in view of Ramasubramenian et al in order to allow a user to acquire a high resolution image of the video image which is better related to the video images.

41: In regards to Claim 49, Mottur in view of Ramasubramenian et al teaches acquiring a high-resolution still image and generating a low resolution video as viewed in real time using the respective camera. However, Mottur in view of Ramasubramenian et al does not teach the use of

using a camera that captured the high resolution still image at the same time the low resolution video is being generated.

Juen teaches on Paragraphs [0037-0040] and depicts in Figure 1 the use of a camera which captures a high resolution video and saves each of the high resolution frames as high-resolution still images. Juen teaches that these high-resolution images are converted to low resolution images and formed into a video stream. Therefore, it is viewed by the examiner that the process of acquiring a high-resolution image is performed during the generation of the video signal, since both the video images and still images are formed from the same image capture. Juen teaches that this camera is advantageous because it clearly relates the still images to the video images.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the electronic camera of Juen in the video distribution system of Mottur in view of Ramasubramanian et al in order to allow a user to acquire a high resolution image of the video image which is better related to the video images.

42: Claims 36 and 45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US 2002/0018124 A1 Mottur et al in view of USPN 6,172,672 Ramasubramanian et al in further view of USPN 5,896,171 Suzuki

43: In regards to Claim 36, Motter et al in view of Ramasubramanian et al teaches the use of a camera control system which allows a user to simultaneously control camera characteristics such as pan and tilt and at the same time simultaneously with a transition of a video stream. However, Motter et al in view of Ramasubramanian et al is silent as to if the wire used to

transmit the video and still images is separate from a wire used to communicate the control commands.

Suzuki teaches on Column 5, Lines 1-14 that it is advantageous to use two different physical medium (wires) to communicate video and control commands in order to prevent cross talk between the video signal and the control signals in order to improve image quality.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to construct the system of Motter et al in view of Ramasubramanian et al to have two different wires as taught by Suzuki so that the control signals and video signals can be transmitted on different lines in order to prevent cross talk between the video signal and the control signals in order to improve image quality.

44: As for Claim 45, Furthermore, Mottur et al teaches on Paragraph [0020] providing real-time continuous streaming video and audio data from at least one remote camera system. Furthermore, the systems allows the network users to interactively control the cameras using continuous control methods and systems such as panning and tilting. Therefore, in order to have continuous real-time streaming video and continuous controlling of pan and tilt angles it is inherent that there are two different communications channels to allow the two processes to take place simultaneously. This requires the different physical media of the communications channel and the pipeline to simultaneously communicate different respective electrical signals.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James M. Hannett whose telephone number is 571-272-7309. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 am to 5:00 pm M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Ometz can be reached on 571-272-7593. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

James M. Hannett
Examiner
Art Unit 2612

Application/Control Number: 10/023,951
Art Unit: 2612

Page 28

JMH

March 16, 2006



DAVID OMETZ
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER